

MISSIONARY SERVANTS OF THE POOR

NEWSLETTER
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From the
hand of
Our Lady of
Silence

*Invocation of Our Lady of
Silence*

THE CHARISM OF THE
MSP

"Look to him, and be radiant"
Psalm 34:5

NEWS FROM OUR
HOUSES

*Anniversary of the Death of
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Beyond the asphalt!

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FROM THE HAND OF MARY

INVOCATION OF OUR LADY OF SILENCE



On January 1 the Universal Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God which fills us with joy and shows us the way to travel for the rest of the year. The Church invites us to begin the year with Mary, showing us how to make the best start we can.

We would like to tell you about a beautiful vocation within the Missionary Servants of the Poor. The Monastery of our community has been placed under the protection of Our Lady of Silence. As you know, the men's branch of the Missionary Servants of the Poor has a contemplative community. In the words of Father Giovanni, this community is the compass of the movement as it is the monks who are showing us the way to go which is nothing more than continuous prayer. In fact, if the MSP does not live by continuous prayer, he begins to lose the sense of his missionary being.



The contemplative community being the compass of the MSP, it is important to note the love they have for Our Lady of Silence. It was around the 90s when Brother Miguel Malterre (current superior of the community), was given the task by Father Giovanni of finding a name for the new contemplative community. Brother Miguel says that Fr. Giovanni wanted to call the contemplative community Our Lady of Guadalupe, which was only a suggestion since he wanted Br. Miguel to give the community its name.

Once, while his parents were visiting the city of Cuzco, they were visiting shops and found hanging on the wall a tapestry that represented Our Lady of Silence. At that moment, Brother Miguel felt in his heart that this must be the name for the nascent community.

From that moment on, the Monastery has been placed under the protection of Our Lady of Silence, an invocation that contains within its name an entire program of missionary life.

Let's start with the first word: By saying "our," we indicate that we cannot invoke

her and love her with all our heart if it is not from a love in communion. Holy Scripture reminds us that "if anyone says: I love God, but hates his brother, he is a liar...whoever loves God, loves his brother also" (1 John 4:20-21). Hence, we must address Her with the adjective "our" since she is not our own mother but is both mine and my brothers', which is already a telling message that leads us to open our hearts towards our brothers.

It was in France that Saint Alberic began to recognize Mary as "domina" (lady), an appellation that became popular in the Middle Ages in recognition of Mary as Queen, Mother of the true King of the Universe. The above serves to express that as MSP we recognize that the Blessed Virgin Mary is our Lady, that is, that Queen who enters deeply into our lives, into our ideas, projects, convictions, motivations, etc. In other words, we allow her to do with our lives whatever she wants, since she is the Queen.

"Silence" is the third word. What we as MSP think about this beautiful virtue could be summarized by paraphrasing the words of our founder Father Giovanni Salerno: "God draws us to silence and solitude, and this same silence is what opens each heart to love and service to others."

Let us be accompanied, especially at the beginning of the year, by our Mother. May she be the one who prepares hearts so that, through our humble service, God can reign in many hearts.





Also try praying with a single word: "Jesus!" A great peace will flood your hearts.



FR. GIOVANNI SALERNO



THE CHARISM OF THE MSP

*“Look to him, and be radiant”
Psalm 34:5*

We continue discussing the topic of contemplation.

We must contemplate Christ to become radiant and radiate joy around us. We must imitate Christ to realize in us the Opus Christi and save souls with the power of the Cross planted on the horizon of the glorious resurrection. The rule of life contained in the Imitation of Christ must be the chisel that forms our soul on that of Christ in Whose face shines the glory of God (cf. 2 Cor 4:6).

“Many want to achieve contemplation, but do not want to practice what is necessary to achieve it. The great obstacle is that one gives oneself over to sensible and external things and neglects true mortification” (Imitation of Christ, Book II, chapter 31).

Thus, whoever opts for the Movement of the Servants of the Poor, before thinking about the poor, must worry about being a servant of God in order to be a servant of the poor. And we should not be afraid to present to those who ask to share our life a shocking, dramatic ideal, which is the vilified and despised Face of the Servant of Yahweh, Christ crucified, the obligatory path towards the glory of the Risen One.

The Servants of the Poor, therefore, must be true contemplatives in action. Hence the importance for them of prayer and silence in the life of service to Christ in the poor.

This contemplation that each one lives in his own family, work and social environment in general, the Servants of the Poor transmit to all those who want to live the invitation of Christ: "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give it to the poor, and you will have treasure in Heaven; then come and follow me" (Mt 19:21).

The Servant of the Poor has the mission of healing everyone with the gift of infused contemplation: "Those who look towards Him will shine" (Psalm 34:5). Being radiant means communicating to others the splendor of this new life which is health and salvation, that is, a deep realization of one's own human and Christian being, leaving behind the wounds and sorrow of sin. Being radiant is the solution to all the internal and, consequently, external problems of life.

Through this contemplation we achieve not only peace and inner health, but also intense joy which will manifest itself in the expressions of a radiant face.

Fr. Giovanni Salerno



"The Servant of the Poor has the mission of healing everyone with the gift of infused contemplation."

NEWS FROM OUR HOUSES

Anniversary of the Death of Father Giovanni

On February 4 we will celebrate the first anniversary of the death of Father Giovanni Salerno. We invite all of you to join in the prayers on that beautiful day that we will raise to our Heavenly Father Whom we will ask to bring into His glory Father Giovanni Salerno, who dedicated much of his life to the service of the poorest and most disadvantaged.

His reward is his children, his poor, his orphans, his missionaries, all the young people who, thanks to him, are professionals, in short, his reward is God.

Beyond the asphalt!

Within the charism of the Missionary Servants of the Poor we seek to go "beyond the asphalt," an expression that Father Giovanni used to use to indicate that our duty is to go to the furthest places where, even now, the Gospel has not arrived.

During the months of January and February various extraordinary missions will be carried out through which both the Priests and Brothers as well as the missionary Sisters will go to alleviate the pain of all who suffer and who do not know God.

We entrust the achievement of these missions to your prayers.





S.O.S

TO YOUNG PEOPLE

If you are a young man or woman or a married couple, or if you wish to form a support group or become an oblate in your own country, God is calling you. Don't extinguish the call and say
Yes to Christ

contact us!



WE NEED YOUR PRAYER

THE MOST
IMPORTANT
HELP FOR
MISSIONARIES IS
PRAYER

REGISTER NOW



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